

# Smoke, dry lightning, and light IA as region moves to Preparedness Level 3

The majority of large fires in the Northwest are moving into mop-up, patrol and fireline repair -- with four fires working on containment of their remaining open lines. As low pressure and an extended outlook for moisture moves into the area tomorrow, the Region will move to Preparedness Level 3 on Friday, September 7.

Initial attack has been light and successful, with one new fire reported at 40 acres in northeast Washington, near Colville, on Washington DNR managed lands. Another extended attack fire is burning on the Malheur National Forest, within the 2015 perimeter of the Canyon Creek Fire. Yesterday, large fires experienced some growth with dry, windy conditions that also supported successful burnout operations.

Burned area emergency response teams are being assembled for eight fires and will be activated beginning tomorrow. And a 55-acre prescribed burn has been initiated in the Gifford-Pinchot National Forest.

## Fire Environment and Fire Weather

Warm and mostly dry today, with firefighters working to strengthen holding lines and continue mop-up and suppression repair. The extended trough is expected to move in from the southwest, with gusty winds and wind shifts followed by increased moisture potential tomorrow and continuing into the middle of next week. While initial moisture may be limited to northwest Oregon and western Washington, the potential of a season-slowing moisture pattern is building.

## Helpful Links

- PNW Execs blog: [pnwexecs.blogspot.com](http://pnwexecs.blogspot.com)
- NWCC Blog: <http://nwccinfo.blogspot.com/>
- Oregon Smoke blog: <http://oregonsmoke.blogspot.com/>
- Washington Smoke blog: <http://wasmoke.blogspot.com/>
- 7-Day Fire Potential : <https://gacc.nifc.gov/nwcc/content/products/fwx/guidance/DL.pdf>
- Morning Brief: <https://gacc.nifc.gov/nwcc/content/products/intelligence/MORNINGBRIEF.pdf>
- Helpful Wind Map: <https://www.windy.com/?44.143,-119.773,6,i:pressure>

## Fire-related articles

- [360 Video: One Year After The Eagle Creek Fire ...](#)  
OPB News (OR).

- “One year later: An Eagle Creek Fire timeline.” KGW, Portland (OR).  
<https://www.kgw.com/article/weather/wildfires/one-year-later-an-eagle-creek-fire-timeline/283-590297111>
- “At least 1/3 of Washington wildfires could have been prevented.” Q13 News, Seattle (WA).  
<https://q13fox.com/2018/09/05/at-least-1-3-of-washington-wildfires-could-have-been-prevented/>
- “High winds expected to drive fires.” Curry Coastal Pilot (September 4, 2018).  
<https://www.curriypilot.com/news/6498158-151/high-winds-expected-to-drive-fires>

## Emerging Incidents

Initial attack was light today.

### Washington

One emerging incident reported, a 40 acre fire near Colville, WA, with management by local WA-DNR Type 3 IMT.

### Oregon

There is a potential for holdover ignitions tomorrow from yesterday's lightning, which occurred primarily in the Wallowa-Whitman NF.

Other initial attack includes a new start within the perimeter of the 2015 Canyon Creek Fire, ignited in light fuels when a wind event knocked a snag into a powerline. Existing roads will be used as control lines, with size estimated at 110 acres.

### California

- Interstate 5 remains closed north of Redding and south of Mt. Shasta due to the Delta Fire, which is currently listed as 15,294 acres. An evacuation center has been opened in Mt. Shasta. Fire information: <https://inciweb.nwccg.gov/incident/6191/>
- Road closure information: <http://www.dot.ca.gov/hq/roadinfo/display.php?page=i5>
- Traffic cams: <http://www.dot.ca.gov/dist2/cctv/allcams.shtml>

## LARGE INCIDENTS - WASHINGTON

**Crescent Mountain/McLeod/Holman Fires:** NR IMT 1, IC Turman, is managing the 49,277 (+411) acre [Crescent Mountain Fire](#), the 22,511-acre [McLeod Fire](#), and the 300-acre Holman Fire, which are burning on the Methow Valley Ranger District of the Okanogan-Wenatchee NF. 106 homes are under Level 3 evacuations, 77 are in Level 2 and multiple others at the mouth of the Twisp River Valley remain in a Level 1.

- *Crescent Mountain:* The fire experienced 411 acres of growth yesterday. Containment increased to 38%. Firefighters are going direct in the Mission Mountain area above Libby Creek. Smoke inversion remains a concern. Today, team members from plans visited a local school to talk about the mapping and science involved in fire management. More information is at:

<https://inciweb.nwccg.gov/incident/6093/>



McLeod Fire: Heavy equipment on the fireline.

[http://inciweb.nwcg.gov/photos/WAOWF/2018-08-12-2217-McLeod/picts/2018\\_09\\_05-19.57.48.756-CDT.jpeg](http://inciweb.nwcg.gov/photos/WAOWF/2018-08-12-2217-McLeod/picts/2018_09_05-19.57.48.756-CDT.jpeg)

- *McLeod Fire:* Crews are strengthening fire lines, continuing mop-up, and beginning suppression repair work. An upswing in cold-related incidents is being reported from the medical unit leader.



Cougar Creek: Sunrise at ICP.

[http://inciweb.nwcg.gov/photos/WAOWF/2018-07-29-1817-Cougar-Creek/picts/2018\\_09\\_06-10.42.39.278-CDT.jpeg](http://inciweb.nwcg.gov/photos/WAOWF/2018-07-29-1817-Cougar-Creek/picts/2018_09_06-10.42.39.278-CDT.jpeg)

**Cougar Creek/Bannock Lake:** (NW Team 10, IC Lawson) The Cougar Creek fire is at 42,412 (+63) acres and 71% contained and Bannock Lake Fire is at 487 acres, and has been relatively quiet. Mop-up continues, with some bucket work on hot spots. Using palm IR to locate and mop-up any hot spots around homes. The Team anticipates significant suppression repair. Two cases of strep throat were confirmed. More information is at <https://inciweb.nwcg.gov/incident/6053/>

## LARGE INCIDENTS - OREGON



Cobra lily found in area of 2002 Biscuit Fire. [http://inciweb.nwcg.gov/photos/ORRSF/2018-07-23-1741-Klondike-Fire/picts/2018\\_09\\_05-21.39.33.228-CDT.jpeg](http://inciweb.nwcg.gov/photos/ORRSF/2018-07-23-1741-Klondike-Fire/picts/2018_09_05-21.39.33.228-CDT.jpeg)

**Klondike Fire:** (SA Red, IC Dueitt). The fire is at 115,404 acres (+3,097) and 51 percent contained. Most of yesterday's growth was in the Indigo Creek area. Aviation support continued, with favorable burning conditions supporting tactical firing operations that began late yesterday and continued today. A few Level 3 evacuations remain in place with Level 2 evacuation orders for the community of Agness. A community meeting was held yesterday with 50-60 in attendance. The "Ride the Rogue" bike race remains on schedule for Sept. 8. More information is at: <https://inciweb.nwcg.gov/incident/5998/>.

**Terwilliger Fire:** NR Team, IC Connell is managing the 9,639-acre (+481) Terwilliger Fire with 34-percent containment. The fire is located on the Willamette National Forest near the Terwilliger (Cougar) Hot Springs and burning on both sides of Cougar Reservoir. Crews are holding handline and mopping up on the north, with some bucket work to control hot spots. Firing operations continue on the south end of the fire to tie the 140 road into the 19 road, with isolated spot fires contained. Firefighters continue to install and staff sprinklers along the wilderness boundary to protect foot bridges. A forest closure remains in effect. Information can be found at <https://inciweb.nwcg.gov/incident/6160/>



**Terwilliger Fire.** Low intensity fire along East Fork Trail.

[http://inciweb.nwcg.gov/photos/ORWIF/2018-08-20-1127-Terwilliger-Fire/picts/2018\\_09\\_05-13.54.32.164-CDT.jpeg](http://inciweb.nwcg.gov/photos/ORWIF/2018-08-20-1127-Terwilliger-Fire/picts/2018_09_05-13.54.32.164-CDT.jpeg)

**Natchez Fire:** NW Team 7, IC Knerr. The fire grew another 1164 acres yesterday to the west and is now 31,273 (+1164) acres and 70 percent contained. On the west side, the team is working to hold the fire on the east of El Capitan and is considering tactical firing operations. On the north and east sides of the fire, continuing to hold the fireline and repair roads. The community of Sunstar remains under a Level 1 evacuation. Three additional residences are under an evacuation warning. A public meeting will be held Friday, 1800, at Happy Camp. More information can be found at

<https://inciweb.nwcg.gov/incident/5948/>.

- **Natchez Fire Infographic:** Interrupting ridgeline fuels - a photo illustration that explains some of the challenges of keeping fire from passing through the gap in the ridgeline and spreading to the west. <https://inciweb.nwcg.gov/incident/photograph/5948/9/87156>